ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

December 21st, 2025 | Fourth Sunday of Advent | Painting by: Antonio Palomino

FROM OUR PRIESTS

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

One of the best things about Christmas as a kid was presents. The anticipation of opening presents was exciting, the actual opening of presents was fun, and sometimes, putting those presents to use was even more fun. But – and I think you can agree with me on this – as we get older, we tend to enjoy the gifts themselves less than when we were kids. As we get older, we are less easily amused, and there can be a grace in this, in that it can allow us to be more open to the spiritual gifts that God wants to give to His people.

At the first Christmas, God's people were waiting for the fulfillment of His promise to send a Messiah to deliver them. This was partly for their own benefit, but also for the glory of God; when the Messiah came to deliver them, the nations around would be in awe of the One True God, and so would any doubting Jews. The arrival of the long-promised Messiah would be better than material blessings for anyone who was truly awaiting the consolation of Israel. When Jesus was born, some recognized and believed right away that Jesus was the fulfillment of God's promise and that He would save God's people from their sins; those who received this gift were filled with great joy. The ones who were able to receive this gift right away were typically those who had been anticipating it, waiting for it, watching for it: Anna, Simeon, the Magi, Mary, and Joseph.

This brings the question, then, for you today: What has God promised to you? By asking this question, I mean both the things God has promised to all of His people in Scripture and the things that God has personally spoken to you for your life. Certainly, we have to start with God's plan for His Church; if we're not excited about that, then we probably won't be excited about or even aware of God's action in our personal lives. But once we are studying Scripture and anticipating God's promises in the lives of those who believe, we can truly receive God's promises to us personally as well. Is there a way that you deeply desire to serve God but don't know when or how it will happen? Watch, prepare, and wait for it. Is there something that God has said He will do for you or for your family? Watch, prepare, and wait for it. To receive a gift from God, we need to be like Mary, who believed that what was spoken to her by the Lord would be fulfilled.

God Bless You,

Fr. Dan

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED DECEMBER 24TH - JANUARY 1ST. THE ADJUSTED MASS AND ADORATION SCHEDULE IS LISTED ON THE NEXT PAGE AND WEBSITE.

MASS TIMES

Monday	12:15 PM
Tuesday	6:00 PM
Wednesday	8:00 AM
Thursday	8:00 AM
Friday	12:15 PM
Saturday	8:00 AM
	5:00 PM
Sunday	9:00 AM
	11:00 AM

9:00 AM Mass Livestreamed here.

Recitation of the Rosary is held after daily Mass, Wednesday through Saturday.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

In the Adoration Chapel

Monday 11:00 AM-12:00 PM
Tuesday 9:00 AM-5:45 PM
Wednesday 9:00 AM-9:00 PM
Friday 1:00 PM-5:00 PM

ALL-NIGHT ADORATION

First Friday of the Month
Friday, 1:00 PM through
Saturday, 7:45 AM

CONFESSION

Monday	11:00 AM
Tuesday	6:30 PM
Friday	11:00 AM
Saturday	3:30 PM

CHRISTMAS
MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS
4 PM MASS
MIDNIGHT MASS

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS
10 AM

NEW YEARS DAY MASS
HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

DECEMBER 31ST
5 PM
JANUARY 1ST
9 AM
11 AM

The Parish Office will be closed December 24th - January 1st.
NO DAILY MASS OR CONFESSIONS DEC 24TH, 25TH, 26TH & 27TH.
NO ADORATION DEC 24TH, 25TH, 26TH, 31ST & JAN 1ST.

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you for your generous support of the Stewardship for Saints and Scholars campaign. Thanks to parishioners across the Diocese of Lansing, more than $53 million has been raised to strengthen Catholic education and support parish life.

I am especially grateful to all who have shared their time, talent, and treasure over these past few months. Your dedication, whether through volunteering, spreading the word, praying for the campaign, or making a sacrificial gift, has been an extraordinary blessing.

Your generosity is already making a real difference by helping train and form faithful Catholic educators, expanding financial aid for families, and ensuring students with diverse needs receive the support they deserve. These investments are blessing our schools today and shaping the future of Catholic education for years to come.

Our parish numbers are still being finalized, and we will share an update with you in the coming weeks. Please know how grateful we are for everyone who has participated. Thank you for your prayers, generosity, and commitment to our mission.

In Christ, Fr. Dan Kogut

SJ Beat

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING COMMUNITY LIFE AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

STARTING JANUARY 5TH

EXODUS
•NINETY DAYS•

EXODUS 90

INFORMATIONAL MEETING
SATURDAY, JANUARY 10TH
after the 8am Mass,
downstairs in the PLC.

Men of our parish are invited to join Fr. Dan for Exodus 90—a 90-day journey of fraternity, prayer, and ascetical discipline. Together, we will walk through the Book of Exodus with guidance from Fr. Boniface Hicks, OSB, and Jamie Baxter.

This is an opportunity to break free from the habits, distractions, and sins that keep us from living as the men God created us to be. As Christ showed us on the Cross, true freedom is found when we take responsibility for our lives and offer them generously for others. What God gives in return is deeper integrity, purpose, and lasting joy.

Please note: Exodus 90 will take the place of the Men's Breakfast until Easter.

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFO AND TO SIGN UP FOR EXODUS 90

START THE NEW YEAR IN HIS PRESENCE

JANUARY ALL-NIGHT ADORATION

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2ND, 5PM TO
SATURDAY, JANUARY 3RD, 7:45AM
in the Adoration Chapel

ADORERS NEEDED!

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP FOR ALL-NIGHT ADORATION

HOLY BREWS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7TH, 7PM

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24TH

WORSHIP NIGHT

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16TH

CAMPUS MINISTRY

JOIN A SMALL GROUP!

Looking for a place to grow this semester?

Come be part of something deeper! Our small groups are the perfect place to grow in your faith, be formed as a disciple, and build real, lasting friendships in a Christ-centered community. Whether you're new, returning, or simply hungry for more, there's a group waiting for you.

Scan the QR code to find your group this winter!

Fill out the short sign-up form, and we'll help you get connected.

"WHAT THE CHURCH TEACHES" SERIES

December 22nd.....Holiday Time Off

December 29th.....Holiday Time Off

January 5th.....Catholic Moral Teaching (Forming conscience, natural law, commandments 1-3)

January 12th.....Catholic Moral Teaching (commandments 4-10)

MONDAYS AT 6:30
DOWNSTAIRS IN THE PLC

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR THE FULL SCHEDULE.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SNOW REMOVAL

If you or your teen would be open to coming to the church after a snowfall we would really appreciate your help! No commitment required - we will contact you when we need help and be very happy when you can make it. There are a lot of entrances to the church and we want to keep everyone safe.

FOR INFORMATION OR TO VOLUNTEER, CONTACT SR. MARY: SRMARY@YPSICATHOLIC.ORG

WAITING FOR JESUS

Advent is a time when we reflect on waiting for Jesus. However, have you ever thought about those who might be waiting for YOU to bring Him to them?

Isolated members of our Catholic community in care and correctional facilities need Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to visit and share Christ's presence.

No experience is needed—training is provided, with flexible times and locations. Contact Michelle Kazanjian at 734.971.9781 x338 or mkazanjian@ccwcwashtenaw.org.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TRAINING WORKSHOP

THE FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT

Behold

"As we come into the last week of Advent, the excitement for Christmas becomes very real. We often get distracted by this excitement - for the gifts, Santa, and the sweets - that we forget this time is meant to prepare ourselves for Christ's imminent arrival. during these final days, we should remember St. Joseph, who never hesitated to act upon God's word."
– Waiting Well, Advent with Fr. Mike Schmitz

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP FOR THE VIDEOS ON THE ASCENSION APP.

WORDS OF WISDOM

"Often in life, things happen whose meaning we do not understand. Our first reaction is frequently one of disappointment and rebellion. Joseph set aside his own ideas in order to accept the course of events and, mysterious as they seemed, to embrace them, take responsibility for them and make them part of his own history."
- Pope Francis, Patris Corde

SONGS OF THE WEEK

Hymn to Christ the King - Sarah Hart /
Expectans Expectavi - Charles Wood /
Veni, Veni Emmanuel

NEEDED, WANTED, & AVAILABLE

Bilingual Spanish Speakers Needed - Seeking Spanish-speaking parishioners to help at our food pantry on Thursday evenings. We are looking for Spirit-filled missionary disciples who can share Jesus with our Hispanic patrons. If you are interested in volunteering or learning more, contact Clare Firn, pantry@ypsicatholic.org

Transportation Help Needed- An elderly couple who live near Hewitt & Ellsworth are in need of transportation to the 11 AM Sunday Mass. If you are able to regularly assist with rides, please contact Michael at 734-328-9393.

Caregiver Needed - The Fuller family (Christ the King, Ann Arbor) seeks a caregiver for their 17-year-old daughter with Down syndrome. Must be 18+, pass a background check, and complete paid training. Email full.md5@icloud.com with a short bio.

GIVE ONLINE

ypsicatholic.org/give

SCAN THE QR CODE TO GIVE ONLINE

SACRAMENTS

MATRIMONY
Couples should contact the parish office to inquire about Marriage Formation as soon as they are engaged.

BAPTISM
Parents are required to complete preparation and must be registered parishioners for at least three months. Pre-registration is required. Please call the parish office for more information.

LAY MINISTER INFORMATION
If you are interested in serving as a Liturgical Minister or wish to update your schedule preferences, please submit your request by email to schedule@ypsicatholic.org.

REQUESTING MASS INTENTIONS
Call or visit the parish office to ask for a special day. Weekday and weekend Masses are available. The stipend for a Mass intention is $10. Mass cards are also available.

ANNOINTING OF THE SICK
Please call the parish office for more information.

FUNERALS
Please call the parish office for more information.

OFFICE PHONE
734-483-3360

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22ND
12:15 PM:† Pam Kolo
Requested by Camilla Landry

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23RD
6:00 PM Intentions of Cara Hughes
Requested by Joyce Hughes

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH
4:00 PM Christmas Eve

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25TH
12:00 AM Christmas Day
10:00 AM Christmas Day

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26TH
12:15 PM: *No Mass*

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27TH
8:00 AM: *No Mass*

5 PM:† Lena Cimino
Requested by Leanna McCully

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28TH
9:00 AM: People of the Parish

11 AM: † Vince Greiner
Requested by the Muczynski Family

JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR…

Katie (O'Toole) Davis
Kailyn Fitzgerald
Kris Kapcia
Ann Marie Rusiniak
Dorothy Chan
Philip Philipose
Shibu Philipose
Gemma Almendras
Jake Meyer
Pfc. Carter Hornbeck
Caroline Stramecky
David Sell
Margaret Trapp
Rebecca McKenzie

Please call the parish office if you would like to add a name to the intercessions for healing or for those serving in the armed forces. Names remain on the list for four weeks unless you request an extension.

Our Book of Petitions is also available in the Gathering Space, and these intentions are prayed for at every Mass.

OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

"We exist to form a community of Spirit-filled, missionary disciples of Jesus."

“HOMILY ON CHRISTMAS MORNING”

ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Behold a new and wondrous mystery. My ears resound to the Shepherd’s song, piping no soft melody, but chanting full forth a heavenly hymn. The Angels sing. The Archangels blend their voice in harmony. The Cherubim hymn their joyful praise. The Seraphim exalt his glory. All join to praise this holy feast, beholding the Godhead here on earth, and man in heaven. He who is above, now for our redemption dwells here below; and he that was lowly is by divine mercy raised.

Bethlehem this day resembles heaven; hearing from the stars the singing of angelic voices; and in place of the sun, enfolds within itself on every side, the Sun of justice. And ask not how: for where God wills, the order of nature yields. For he willed; he had the power; he descended; he redeemed; all things yielded in obedience to God. This day he who is, is born; and he who is, becomes what he was not. For when he was God, he became man; yet not departing from the Godhead that is his. Nor yet by any loss of divinity became he man, nor through increase became he God from man; but being the Word he became flesh, his nature, because of impassability, remaining unchanged.

And so the kings have come, and they have seen the heavenly King that has come upon the earth, not bringing with him angels, nor archangels, nor thrones, nor dominations, nor powers, nor principalities, but, treading a new and solitary path, he has come forth from a spotless womb.

Since this heavenly birth cannot be described, neither does his coming amongst us in these days permit of too curious scrutiny. Though I know that a Virgin this day gave birth, and I believe that God was begotten before all time, yet the manner of this generation I have learned to venerate in silence and I accept that this is not to be probed too curiously with wordy speech.

TO CONTINUE READING
SCAN THE QR CODE.

LAY MINISTER SCHEDULE
DECEMBER 27TH & DECEMBER 28TH

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	SUNDAY
5:00 PM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
USHERS		
Jeff Decker	Carolyn Bradley	Fred Hall
Josh Reszke	Stephen Bradley	Alex Uram
Need Volunteer	Angela Parrinello	Steve Uram
Need Volunteer	Christine Sullivan	Aimee Uram-Taylor
GREETERS		
Rebecca Thomason	Sharon Zielinski	Need Volunteer
Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer
LECTORS		
Patricia Gillay	Rebecca Lussier	Larry Donatelli
Tom Moffit	Sarah Scholl	David Stolarski
SACRISTAN		
ADULT:	ADULT:	ADULT:
Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer	Judy Ramirez
JUNIOR:	JUNIOR:	JUNIOR:
Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer
ALTAR SERVERS		
Jack Netsch	Adrian Anderson	Donald Cahalan
Jordan Wells	Augustine Lussier	Walter Reister
Need Volunteer	Henry Meyer	Michael Stolarski

OFFICE HOURS AND INFO

PARISH OFFICE

411 Florence Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48197
734.483.3360
www.ypsicatholic.org

Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Friday 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM
(Closed for lunch 12:00- 1:00)

CEMETERY

1400 North River Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48197
734.368.7949

STAFF DIRECTORY

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Scott Wells, Campus Ministry Missionary
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Marriage Coordinator
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Food Pantry Ministry
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Bulletin Submissions
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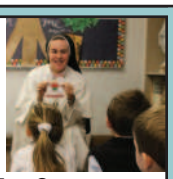
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